Today's News - December 14, 2004

Congress for the New Urbanism issues call for entries for Charter Awards 2005. — Move over Freedom Tower - Burj Dubai will be taller (and finished sconer). — World's tallest bridge is a stunner. — The public is eager for good design (no doubt not just in Australia). — Bad-news day in U.K.: a look at the current status of the Dome. — Will another iconic building (and another museum) really help Liverpool? — Alsop axed (again) - but they get to keep his design. — What's with the alien art invading Holyrood? — Hopes for Toronto's waterfront being chipped away. — Detailing on a residential tower in South San Francisco is "fine and dandy," but as "futile as draping lace on a smokestack...a 180-foot-high slab where no tower ought to be." — No street signs - no accidents: cars and pedestrians actually look out for each other (what a concept!). — How to work parking in - and when and why to leave it out. — Streets and skylines changing in Houston, Shanghai, Korea, and Kuwait City. — HQ for Institute of Peace gets go-ahead (and big bucks) from Congress. — CNN explores Beirut's architectural renaissance. — AlA Minnesota announces 2004 award winners.

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<u>Call for entries: Congress for the New Urbanism Charter Awards 2005; deadline:</u>
<u>February 1</u>- Congress for the New Urbanism

Construction of world's tallest tower to begin: Burj Dubai will be nearly half a mile high, at 800 metres tall...and boast a total of 160 floors - Skidmore, Owings & Merrill [image]- New Scientist

World's Tallest Bridge Soars Above French Valley: opens to traffic Thursday - Norman Foster [image]- New York Times

Everyone deserves a well-designed house: The critics of suburban sprawl are missing the public's eagerness for new ideas...The big message from the metropolitan strategy is that design matters. By Chris Johnson/NSW Government Architect - Murcutt- Sydney Morning Herald

That was then, this is now: The Dome was to be a icon of Cool Britannia blazing us into the new millennium - but it was a disaster. Five years on, Grant Gibson asks what became of the key players in this national embarrassment - Richard Rogers Partnership; Mark Fisher; Landesign; Tim Pyne; etc.- Observer (UK)

Mission of Mersey: After the Fourth Grace fiasco, Liverpool still wants an architectural icon on the waterfront. But it should make more of its magnificent heart. By Deyan Sudjic - Alsop; Hadid; Chipperfield; Simpson-Observer (UK)

Rail plan safe as architect is axed: Will Alsop...will not be leading the design and development phase, despite the [£350 million] project going ahead with his design.icBirmingham (UK)

No place for a public hanging: [Holyrood] is the only building in Scotland for years...that might justifiably be called a Gesamtkunstwerk, a total work of art. So why is it necessary to fill it with quite alien wall-hangings, photographs, sculptures and paintings... By Stuart MacDonald/Lighthouse - Enric Miralles-The Scotsman (UK)

Chipping away at waterfront hopes: Toronto is the cruellest city, constantly raising hopes only to dash them, again and again. By Christopher Hume-Toronto Star

If you build it, they will cringe: Slablike tower doesn't fit in on slopes of San Bruno Mountain. If ever a building showed that architecture can be irrelevant... By John King - MBH Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Roads Gone Wild: No street signs. No crosswalks. No accidents. Surprise: Making driving seem more dangerous could make it safer.- Wired

To park or not to park? Parking myths, how to work parking in -- and when and why to leave it out- LINEonline (AIA/SF)

ORION Emerges: New Luxury Vertical Residences to Change the Face of Houston Skyline - Ede I. Nemeti/Architectural Services International; Keiji Asakura/ASLA Landscaping- Business Wire

Nostalgia is now up-to-date: One Day Living...a block of gentrified colonial-era buildings exuding the nostalgic charm of old Shanghai. - Chen Lianzhong- Shanghai Daily

Architect's new project is 'extension of the street': The mutual trust and collaboration between the progressive client and the then-unknown architect had resulted in another project. - Choi Moon-gyu/GaA Architects; Mass Studies; Slade Architects- JoongAng Daily (Korea)

Kuwait City is latest Arab capital to get an American University: Beyond the architecture of individual buildings, the AUK campus is unusual on an urban level as well. - Chadi Rachid Chamoun [image]- The Daily Star (Lebanon)

Congress Supports Institute of Peace Headquarters Project with \$100 Million
Appropriation - Moshe Safdie and Associates [link to images]- U.S. Institute of Peace

CNN's Design 360 visits Beirut, to find out about the architectural and cultural renaissance which has been taking place there since the civil war ended fifteen years ago. - Bernard Khouri- AME Info (United Arab Emirates)

AlA Minnesota Announces 2004 Honor and Divine Detail Awards [images]- AlA Minnesota

Zaha Hadid: Topping Out Ceremony, Ordrupgaard Extension, Ordrup, Denmark

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